Niagara News

VOL. 24 NO. 14 FREE Friday, March 25, 1994

INFORMING NIAGARA COLLEGE

Bassi retires after 24-year tenure as coach

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Exam tips to help YOU!!

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NIAGARA COLLEGE of Applied Arts and Technology WELLAND CAMPUS LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

Hospitality and Tourism elects new board

By DIANA BERARDI
Staff Writer

The elections results are in, and the new council for the Hospitality and Tourism Centre's junior branch of the Canadian Food Service Executives Association (C.F.S.E.A.) has been decided.

Sarah Veinot is the association's upcoming president for the 1994-1995 school year. Veinot, a first-year Hotel and Restaurant Administration student, was this year's second vice-president, newsletter chairman, freshman board of directors representative, and sat on the fundraising and social committees.

Taking over the duties of vice-president is first-year Hotel and Restaurant Administration student, Tamara Topa. Topa was active on the associaton's newsletter, social and fundraising committees.

Second-year Hotel and Restaurant Administration student, Emilio Consonni Jr., was acclaimed association treasurer. Consonni was a member of this year's social committee.

"All the people elected are very competent," said Yvonne Halliday, 1993-1994 C.F.S.E.A. president. Only active association members were eligible to vote.

Niagara College's C.F.S.E.A. organization is one of about 18 junior branches in Canada. The Niagara College, 24-member, junior branch meets on a monthly basis to encourage the education, fellowship and networking of its members.

Some of this year's meetings have included a resume writing and interview seminar, a tour of two local bed and breakfast inns, a tour of the Pillitteri Estates winery, a visit to Barber's Meat Shop, and conferences on service at Red Lobster in Niagara Falls and on the process involved in opening a restaurant at Samuel's Restaurant in Welland.

"We want to do more activities and increase student membership," said Veinot, referring to her plans for September. Increasing student awareness of the associtation will also be part of the council's initiatives, she said.

The new council will be oriented throughout the remainder of the school year by Halliday and former vice-president, Cory Campbell, and throughout the summer by Yvonne MacGillvary, junior liaison officer for the Hamilton-Niagara Region of the C.F.S.E.A.

Canadian Food Service Executives Association's new council is Vice-President Tamara Topa (at left), President Sarah Veinot, and Treasurer Emilio Consonni Jr.

Photo by Diana Berardi

Halliday was the 1993 recipient of the association's Gold Plate award. This is a $400 bursary and trophy awarded to a student obtaining the highest standing in the areas of education, association participation, industry experience, community involvement, and on a written assignment.

The Gold Plate winners from the junior branches across Canada are eligible to compete for the National Gold Plate award. This competition takes place in the summer.

The National Gold Plate conference provides valuable education, travel and networking opportunities, said Halliday

Today, March 25, is the deadline for this year's Gold Plate applications, and the winner, announced in April, will compete in the national competition in Halifax, N.S.

The association is selling chocolate almonds to raise money to send one other member, besides the gold plate winner, to the national conference.

The association's last meeting of the 1993-1994 school year will be held on April 12.

Budding young artist

Cassandra Brian, 4, of Niagara Falls paints a mural in downtown Niagara Falls during the Promenade for the Arts.

Photo by Diana Berardi

Welland fights for French site

By JILLIAN WATSON
By Staff Writer

Welland is lobbying to house the administrative site for the new French Language College opening in central southwestern Ontario September 1995.

Le Consortium du Niagara pour l'Education en langue francaise, Le comite du complexe multi-services, and L'association des gens d'affaires will present their arguments to the board establishing the college at a meeting April 8.

The location for the administrative site would be "most viable where French language services are already in place," said internal member of the board Anne Audet-Giroux.

Because the college will not be built with "mortar and brick," but will use existing facilities such as secondary schools and colleges,

Anne Audet-Giroux

Audet-Giroux said the ideal site would be an area with an organized French community and a well-established school system for Francophones.

Welland was designated eligible to receive French language services with the passage of the French Language Services Act in 1989.

A consultant firm, hired by the board, will research the best locations for the administrative and program delivery access sites and submit their recommendations to the board.

The college will continue to offer programs with facilities with which Niagara College's French Language Services department has made partnerships.

Seafood and wine lovers rejoice!

By DIANA BERARDI
Staff Writer

Seafood and wine lovers, it's that time of year again!

The sixth annual Niagara College Seafood and Wine Extravaganza is scheduled for Friday, April 22 at Victoria Park Restaurant in Niagara Falls.

"The college's Seafood and Wine Extravaganza has become one of the most eagerly awaited events of the year," said the Niagara Peninsula Gourmet newsletter which urges guests to register early as another sold out evening is expected.

"Two-thirds of the tickets have already been sold," said Larry Naftulin, chief executive officer of the Niagara College Foundation, adding the restaurant only has a maximum capacity of 320.

The event will start with a reception at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

The menu includes baked oysters rockefeller, salmon medallions with oyster sauce, poached half lobsters, snowcrab legs in caper and lemon butter, and a paella of salmon, shrimp, mussels and more.

Chef professors and students from Niagara College's Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls will prepare all the desserts for this evening.

"The desserts were spectacular last year," said Naftulin, referring to the two rooms of desserts, including tortes, cakes,

eclairs and pastries, prepared by the centre. "This year there will be a few lighter desserts for the people who had trouble walking back from the dessert table," he added.

"It was easy to see why Niagara College's Culinary Skills program has acquired its outstanding reputation," said the newsletter.

Accompanying the meal is a selection of Niagara's wines.

"Last year we not only consumed lots of food, but also 27 cases of wine," said Naftulin. Guests sampled vintage offerings from wineries like Inniskillin, Chateau des Charmes, Cartier, Hillebrand, Brights, and Andres.

After dinner guests can dance to the music of Bill Steven's Dixieland Band and can win several prizes throughout the evening, including a Toronto Blue Jays prize package.

This year's event also includes a special auction for a dinner for six prepared by Niagara College President John Saso and he'll bring all the food.

A limited number of tickets are available and they must be purchased before April 18. The cost is $75 a person and a $35 tax receipt will be issued. All the proceeds benefit Niagara College programs.

For more information contact Carole Landry from the Niagara College Foundation office at 988-5211.

Technology programs achieve full placements

By STEPHEN KRICK
Staff Writer

Two co-operative programs at Niagara College were able to find paying jobs for all their third-year students.

The two programs are Manufacturing Engineering and Mechanical Engineering. Both programs are four-year technology programs and the jobs are for eight months. After working for eight months the students will come back to school for eight months of schooling before receiving their diplomas and a permanent job.

Leo Tiberi, manager of Co-op and Career Services says there were some employers who wanted students and were unable to get them.

"Excellent work placements have been obtained in the Niagara Region, throughout Ontario and overseas."

The programs share a common set of first-year courses. In the second year, students will either choose to concentrate on the mechanical design of the machinery and equipment used in the manufacturing process or focus on ways to make a better product, more efficiently.

Both programs include 16 months of paid, technically-related employment to compliment their academic studies.

"Excellent work placements have been obtained in the Niagara Region, throughout Ontario, and overseas."

Daycare receives go-ahead

By ROBIN GREEN
Staff Writer

Plans are underway for the new day care facility at Niagara College's Welland campus now that the Ministry of Community and Social Services approved $1 million in funding for the project.

Although the plans are not yet finished, Ancilliary Manager Sandy Fox said she is excited about the new facility, which will have a different lay-out and "will help to develop the (day care) program very effectively."

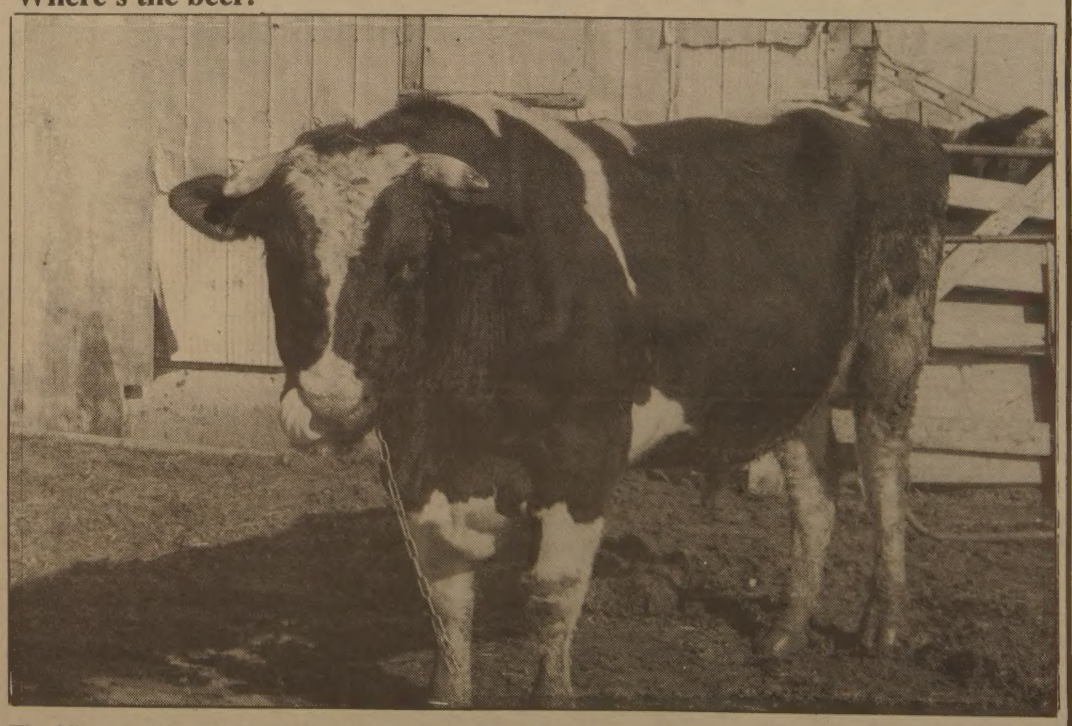
Fox said the centre currently in use at Niagara College is about 26-years old, and often needs repair. The new centre, she said, will be designed to better utilize the space available.

A users committee was put into place with the approval of funding, and consists of the Welland pre-school staff and manager Brigitte Ross, Niagara College Early Childhood Education (ECE) centre manager Pat Eversden and staff, ECE program co-ordinator Allison Sauve, and Ministry of Community and Social Services representative Susan Tomiuk. Fox chairs the committee.

The new centre should start being built in April or May of this year, and a target date for completion has been set for January 1995. The centre will accommodate 85 children ranging in age from three months to six years. The new centre will also be offering the half-day kindergarten program already available at the current facility.

The new centre will be located near parking lot A, across from the Hennepin building. Patrick Jamieson, director of Physical Resources, will act as project manager.

Where's the beef?



The Niagara News is beginning a contest to "Find the Lucky Bull". If you've seen this fella on campus, give us a call.

Photo by Stephen Krick

Hydro Power Contest open to all students

The 1994 Hydro Power Contest provides students throughout North America an opportunity to demonstrate their engineering prowess, ingenuity and mechanical skills, while competing for recognition and thousands of dollars worth of scholarships, cash and prizes.

The Hydro Power Contest challenges students to demonstrate their ability to design and build a device that converts the gravity potential of water into mechanical power.

College and university students, as well as other interested individuals, are invited to enter the contest, which is being judged by 37 companies, utilities and government organizations from the United States and Canada with ties to hydro power. The contest will be held during HydroVision '94 in Phoenix, Ariz., Aug. 16-19, 1994.

To participate in the competition, contestants are required to construct a device that converts the gravity potential of water into mechanical power. Competitors can either design a device producing maximum power or maximum efficiency. The mechanical power will be measured by the time, in seconds, it takes to lift a weight a fixed distance. The turbine design that lifts the weight in the shortest period of time wins. A panel of industry experts will monitor and judge all entries.

The contest offers six categories of competition - five timed divisions and one efficiency division. Winners in each category will win cash plus a Hewlett-Packard scientific calculator and other prizes. Top winners in the two student divisions will also be eligible for scholarship funds. To enter a student division, an individual must be a student in the Fall of 1994.

Contestants took home more than $20,000 worth of cash and prizes from the 1993 Hydro Power Contest, held in Nashville, Tenn.

The contest was created to stimulate and broaden interest in hydro power as a clean, renewable and environmentally sound way of generating electricity.

$20,000 in cash and prizes up for grabs

To enter the 1994 Hydro Power Contest, competitors must purchase a turbine kit for $15. Both individual and team entries are welcome. To purchase a kit or receive more information, contact Laura Smith-Noggle, Hydro Power Contest co-ordinator, 410 Archibald St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111; Tel: (816) 931-1211; Fax: (816) 931-2015.

Baiano new board of governors student representative

By STEPHEN KRICK
Staff Writer

The election for the student representative on Niagara College's Board of Governors will not be held because only one person was nominated.

Doris C. Baiano, 39, from Ridgeway, Ont., was acclaimed after the March 2, deadline for nominations passed.

Baiano, a first-year-student in the Educational Resources and Special Needs program, says she is going to study what the board does and where they hope to go in the future so as to better represent the student body's interests.

"My role is to let them (Board of Governors) know what the student body is saying."

In an effort to determine what the student body is saying, she said she would like to hold a public forum and hand out questionnaires.

'My role is to let them know what the student body is saying,'
-Baiano

Baiano said she is looking forward to sitting on the board and that she doesn't feel there will be any pressure on her.

"I don't think they expect me to come up with anything absolutely original or fantastic that they haven't already thought of."

Baiano, married with three children, said she is ready for the challenge and thinks it will be a great learning experience.

November president's reception planned

By STUART MCDONALD
Staff Writer

Awards night 1994 will be different from past years.

College Council gave its approval to a new concept in academic awards delivery presented by Registrar Ivar Noren on March 16.

Instead of an awards night, Noren proposed a President's Reception to be held at the Horticultural Centre in St. Catharines.

"The old Awards Night was a large activity and very impersonal," said Noren. "It was more pompous than intimate and not a satisfying experience."

The President's Reception will be held in November instead of June and will allow award donors to mix with the recipients, said Noren. He said award recipients will be mailed a congratulatory letter and a cheque or plaque for winning the award. They will also receive an invitation to the reception, he said.

Staff members will introduce donors to award winners, said Noren who added "sometimes the get togethers at colleges create jobs."

Noren said it's the school's objective to give out money instead of plaques as much as possible because money is more useful to students.

Niagara College Foundation will do financial solicitation for awards because "...they could get more money for students," said Noren. The Awards Office will administrate the awards process, he said.

The President's Reception will cost no more than Awards Night (about $5,000) and relatives will be invited to the event, said Noren.

Recycle Niagara

Workers at the Niagara Recycling plant sort through tonnes of paper collected for recycling.

Photo by Chris Russo

Greenpeace founder speaks at Brock

By ANGELA KOTLARZ
Staff Writer

Farley Mowat has called Captain Paul Watson, "the ultimate environmentalist."

Watson, who spoke to a crowd of about 160 people at Brock University, Thursday, March 17, is one of the founding fathers of Greenpeace and is the founder of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society.

He has sailed into the teeth of a nuclear test site in Alaska, became the first person to place his body between a harpoon and a whale, rammed whaling vessels, interfered with seal hunts and led campaigns against the slaughter of pilot whales.

Born in Toronto and attending highschool in London, Ont., Watson went off to sea at 16 to join the Norwegian Merchant Marines.

He said he always had the ambition to be a captain but decided on a career change in the late 1960s, after a United Nations Conference in 1962. World leaders had come together to discuss "serious environmental issues."

Watson said we're no further along today than we were then. On Earth Day, 1990, he said, everybody was an environmentalist because the media decided they were "but it was all rhetoric and no real political action materialized."

"We've become a media culture," he said. "The media defines what is reality and if the media says some things aren't a problem then they don't cover it."

Greenpeace was the first organization to understand what the media was about because the first people to join Greenpeace were broadcasters, reporters and media people, he said.

"People think the media is there to inform them but that's not the case and unless a story involves sex, scandal, violence or a celebrity it's not news," Watson said.

The issue of whaling is rarely covered in the news, he said, "unless, of course, it's dramatic and someone puts themselves in front of a harpoon."

Watson said the media won't listen to scientists who have gathered data on the declining population of wildlife, yet they'll listen if Bo Derek is the spokesperson for the wolves or Brigitte Bardot is cheek-to-cheek with a baby seal.

A motion picture, showcasing the Sea Shepherd Society's efforts, is being made and Mel Gibson will play the part of Captain Paul Watson but, said Watson, "only when you get it onto the screen do the issues with the environment become a reality."

continued on page 8

Graduation ceremonies planned for June

By CHARLIE KOSCAK
Staff Writer

Dates for graduations have been scheduled.

All graduation ceremonies will be held at Welland Centennial Secondary School, 240 Thorold Rd., Welland. Receptions will be held at Niagara College's Cafeteria, in the Black Walnut building.

The spring convocations are open to students who finish their programs before April 29, and complete all graduation requirements before May 20.

On Friday, June 10, at 7:30 p.m., the following programs will graduate: General Arts and Science, Early Childhood Education, Educational Resources and Special Needs, Human Relations, Law and Security Administration, Social Services Worker, Garde educative a l'enfance, Tourisme - circuits et attraits touristiques (mode co-operatif), and Environmental Management.

On Saturday, June 11, at 10 a.m., the following programs will graduate: Fashion Merchandising - Visual Promotions, Horticultural Technician (Co-op), Journalism - Print, Visual and Creative Arts - Design, Interior Design, Broadcasting - Radio, Television and Film, Nursing, Electrical Engineering Technician, Electronics Engineering Technician, Computer Engineering Technology (Co-op), Electrical Engineering Technology - Power Systems (Co-op), Electronics Engineering Technology (Co-op), Manufacturing Engineering Technology (Co-op), Mechanical Engineering Technology, and part-time certificate courses from Continuing Education.

Ceremony three will be held on Saturday, June 11 at 2:30 p.m., and will graduate the following programs: International Trade, Office Administration - General, Business - Accounting, Business - Accounting (Co-op), Business - Retail Management (Co-op), Business - Sales, Computer Programmer, Legal Assistant (Co-op), Office Administration - Executive (Co-op), Business Administration - Accounting, Business Adminstration - Accounting (Co-op), Business Administration - Human Resources Management (Co-op), Business Administration - Information Systems, Business Administration - Marketing (Co-op), Business Administration - Operations Management (Co-op), Culinary Skills, Tourism - Tours and Attractions (Co-op), Hotel and Restaurant Administration (Co-op), and Labour Studies.

The fall convocation is for students who finish their program between April 30 and Aug. 31 and complete all graduation requirements before Sept. 23.

The graduation location and reception will be held at the same places as the spring convocation.

On Friday, Oct. 14, at 7:30 p.m., the following programs will graduate: Ambulance and Emergency Care, Dental Assistant, Dental Hygiene, General College - Health Science Preparatory Option, Medical Transcriptionist - Health Records, Pharmacy Assistant, Health Records Technician, Nursing Assistant, Nursing, Soins infirmiers auxiliares, and Construction Engineering Technology - Architecture.

EDITORIAL PAGE

Photo radar an excessive waste

In a few short weeks, the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General will be implementing photo radar on various Ontario highways.

As a daily highway driver, I disagree with this form of speed regulation. In fact, I don't think excessive speed is the main problem on most highways.

The problem is quite the opposite.

The right hand lane is for slower traffic right? But I don't think they mean less than 80 km an hour. When motorists drive slower than the maximum speed (100 km an hour), others tend to pass in and out of other lanes causing unnecessarily slowing down, hence accidents.

If excessive speed is the problem, why does the Autobahn in Germany have no speed limits.

I drive the QEW Niagara and Highway 406 everyday to get to school and I have to admit that I cruise at about 115 km an hour all the way. I have never been involved in an accident nor have I ever received a speeding violation on a major highway.

I did, however, receive a speeding ticket on a city street and having the police pull me over was definitely a deterrent. I didn't break 50 km for three months.

The fact the province will be photographing your license plate without your knowledge takes away from the whole idea of receiving a ticket and putting a little fear in your soul.

Also, if there is more than one camera on a stretch of highway, will I receive three or four tickets within an hour?

I think the government must sit down and thoroughly decide the real cause of accidents on the highway before flexing their muscles.

Danielle Meville

Community not considered in plan

After three years of planning, Niagara College is poised to build its new $22-million campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake to replace the aging St. Catharines campuses.

Sometime during those three years, however, the idea of a community college was lost.

Niagara College President John Saso told the *Niagara News* students would not be "well served" by keeping the campus in St. Catharines saying the rural location would better accommodate parking and future expansion.

However, in choosing the Niagara-on-the Lake location for the campus, the college has removed the school from the heart of the business region and deposited it in the middle of no where.

Access to housing and transportation are essential elements for a community college to properly serve its students.

At present, there is no housing within walking distance of the proposed campus site and little in the way of a transit system.

It seems Saso is assuming that Niagara-on-the-Lake will grow within the next few years to accommodate the needs of the campus and its students.

In these troubled economic times that assumption may be premature.

Although a St. Catharines campus could pose some difficulty regarding sufficient parking and room for growth, in light of the alternative, it appears to be the better gamble.

Sally Bond

Niagara News

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Partnership helps to increase workforce

By SALLY BOND
Staff Writer

Niagara College and jobsOntario are helping to put area residents back to work.

JobsOntario, created by the provincial government, helps businesses develop training programs for new jobs and provides up to $10,000 in training credits for each new job that is created.

According to a news release issued by jobsOntario, part of the grant can also be used to train existing employees.

As broker for the region, Niagara College has helped to register more than 465 employers and fill over 460 positions.

CanWeb Printing Inc., recently named Grimsby Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year, has been hiring employees through the jobsOntario program since November, 1992.

Garry Holinaty, president of the company, said the program helps to offset the high costs of training new employees.

"It takes up to five years to become fully trained here, but jobsOnario is an intricate part of the initial training," Holinaty said in the press release.

jobsOntario

Cliff Turkstra, president of HMB Leasing in Beamsville, said in the press release he appreciates the "flexibility" jobsOntario allows saying "The program has allowed us training time and it's worked out well for us."

Anyone seeking further information regarding jobsOntario can contact the program at 641-2252 ext. 4021.

jobsOntario 500 strong

By JOHN SARKO
Staff Writer

The jobsOntario training program has reached a milestone by obtaining full-time employment for its 500th registrant.

The positions that have been filled are with small and large businesses throughout the Niagara Region.

Niagara College is the broker in the Region for the provincial jobsOntario training program providing up to $10,000 for training for each new position created.

"We're delighted to see so many employers and potential employees taking advantage of this program," says Bea Clark, director of skills development at the college.

Clark says the college's job is to match up potential employees with employers.

Letter Policy

Your voice or opinion is welcome in our Letters to the Editor section. Our policy regarding letter submission is:

1. All letters must be received on the Friday one week prior to publication.
2. Each letter must include the student's name, college identification number and program of study.
3. All letters must be signed and include a day and evening phone number for verification use only.

All letters can be mailed or brought to the Niagara News newsroom, Rm. S212, Simcoe Building, Welland campus.

News tips? call 735-2211 Extension 7750

PERSPECTIVES

You bettor, you bettor... you bet

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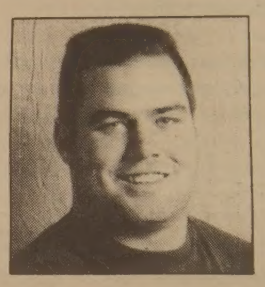


By ELIZABETH BROWN
Staff Writer

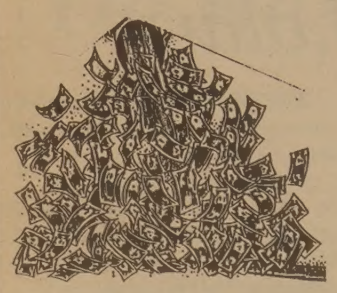
Casino gambling in Niagara Falls, Ont., is a controversial topic.

But, as far as I am concerned there should be no talk.

Niagara Falls is a financially depressed city.

The only time I want to see that city is when I am on my way over to the United States.

Casino gambling will bring people and jobs to Niagara Falls and surrounding areas.



Is that not the most important aspect of any company or tourism attraction coming to a city?

Some people are worried about those who have an addiction to gambling.

Addictions should not be questioned.

If it was, perhaps we should close up all the liquor stores too.

I really don't think people should waste too much time being worried about making Niagara Falls any uglier, it's almost impossible.

In the winter time Niagara Falls shuts down. If casinos will keep the city open for six months, the tourism business will also benefit.

No matter. If people are making money, people are happy.

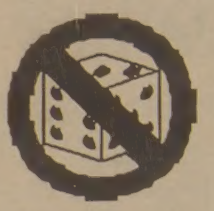
By GREGORY KELLY
Staff Writer

As if Ontario Premier Bob Rae isn't a big enough gamble already, now he wants to legalize casinos in Ontario.

Casino gambling will create jobs, but the few jobs created will in no way offset the amount of organized crime that will accompany the legalization of gambling.

It's not that I have never wagered a few dollars on the occassional sporting event but attempting to turn Niagara Falls, Ont., into Atlantic City, N.J., is an unrealistic pipe dream.

Speaking of pipes that's exactly what the atmosphere of the casino town will encourage. Drug trafficking will increase, gang trouble will rise and prostitution (a gamble in itself) will take off. One job that will benefit from gambling will be addiction counseling services.



There has to be consideration given to image. Niagara Falls is suffering a definite image problem - it's the tackiest town this side of the equator. Casinos offer an entertainment service but they create an image that drains the life out of a community. Tourism may increase but real estate value will decrease drastically.

Casino gambling will increase government revenue for a short time but it will be another white elephant project the New Democrat Party has come to perfect.

You can bet on it.

My last column: Just a few things that bug me

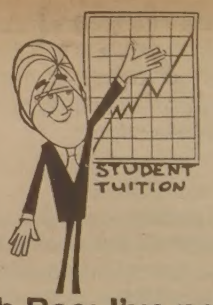
By KEITH HOBBS
Staff Writer

With this being the last issue for the second-year journalism students, of which I am one, I figured it is the last chance to get things off my chest with out the worry of being fired in the morning.

So here it goes... Why After Hours? Why not Before Hours... Does the Mr. Sub sauce smell like a locker room or is it just me?

Three sure signs of armegedon: the book store charging the real price for text books, fresh versa sandwiches and Beamsville's Bill Berg scoring on a break-a-way, not necessarily in that order... Where is the sauna? We have one and I've yet to meet someone who has used it, maybe Saso keeps it for himself.

Why does everyone but the librarian have to be quiet in a library? Sometimes I swear that there must be parties that would embarrass the Romans going on.



Bob Rae: I've never met a student I didn't like to stick it to

If ignorance is bliss, why aren't the cafeteria staff laughing.

Bob Rae is going to increase tuition again this year, what I'd like to know is — where have all the people have gone who said," Let's give him a go, he couldn't do a worse job could he." If you happen to be one, I know alot of people who'd love to punch you in the nose.

Worst case senerio — You graduate, recieve your diploma and on your first job interview you get interviewed by some one who knows Niagara College, what do you do?

a) Pretend you said a different college.

b) Get up and leave.

or c) Kill him and hope the next interviewer can't even spell Niagara College.

Finally... with both a college radio station (CRNC) and a college paper you would think that there is no way that the student body could be so out of touch with college events, so much for logic.

Don't be fooled by the weirdos and their jargon

By JOHN BELL
Staff Writer

So what do I do now?

Time and time again I wage battle in my everlasting war against political correctness. This time I will appease my fans and set the record straight on how society works by showing just how silly political correctness is.

Let's get right into it and start with homosexuals. I don't agree with that type of lifestyle because of certain religious beliefs I adhere to. And, for argument's sake, let's say my opinion is old-fashioned and wrong. Fine. But can someone please tell me why, if sexual preferences shouldn't be taken into account, do gays insist on publicizing the fact? Do whatever you do in the bedroom and shut up. I don't wear "Heterosexual Pride" T-shirts, nor do I advertise the fact by having rallies and parades based entirely on what I do in the bedroom. If it isn't supposed to be an issue, why does the gay community do everything it can to let me know they are gay?

Now let's talk about all these weirdo counselors and anyone else who has the gall to blame their present-day problems on their past experiences. Wake up! If my father was an alcoholic, when I'm 25, it's my choice to drink or not. The same applies if my father beat my mother or if I was sexually abused or whatever. One day everyone has to wake up and realize that they are adults, and the biggest part of being an adult is making your own decisions based on what is acceptable in society. I don't care how bad your life has been— take some responsibility for your own actions. If you spent as much time doing that as you do looking for people to blame your problems on, maybe you'd quit running in circles.

The other day I was reading a letter to the editor in the *Toronto Sun*. The author of the letter was offended by a politician and, claiming he was "food challenged", wondered if the politician would start making fat jokes in Ottawa. Wait a second here! I am a skinny guy. He is fat. Who is food challenged? By the sounds of it, he probably has no challenge with food— likely the opposite. I, on the other hand, am challenged with shoveling down a burger and fries. Give it up!

I also have a problem with the millions of little minority groups who scream and shout every time something doesn't go in their favor. If a white male is shot by a police officer, it might make page 10 of the paper. But if a minority is shot, BOOM, page 1. All of a sudden the whole country is racist and there is a special investigation set up to determine if the shooting was racially-motivated.

If I dare suggest that there may be a problem with immigration or minority crimes, I'm labeled racist. Why aren't records available for crime based on nationality? If I pay the taxes to keep the crooks locked up, I think I have the right to know who is being kept in jail while a single mother and her children are living on Yonge Street.

Don't even get me started on federal funding of multiculturalism and bilingualism. Imagine a person in British Columbia paying for a French road sign in Nova Scotia. Enough said.

In closing, I'll remind you to stay out of the muddy waters of political correctness. The undertow will drown those who swim in it. And just remember that these "freedom fighters" who are standing up for these special interest groups will be the same ones who are hangin' 'em in 10 years. Thanks for reading.

Kidney recipient lives life like everyone else

By CHRIS RUSSO
Staff Writer

To see him you'd never know. To know him you'd never care. And that's the way he'd like to keep it.

Soon after birth, Jay Hammond had 1 1/2 kidneys removed due to an near fatal infection. Jay had a kidney transplant in 1993 and is getting on with his life. The 21-year-old, first-year Law and Security Administration student may have a new kidney, but his outlook on life hasn't changed. "I just live like everyone else," said the life-long St. Catharines resident, "I don't really think about it."

While the donor list in Canada has as many as 800 people on it at a time, Jay was fortunate enough to have a donor available to him right in his own home, his mother. "I said no (to his mother) for a long time," he said, because he was afraid that something during the operation may go wrong. Jay's father, George, was ineligible for donating because he suffered from jaundice as a child.

Lee Hammond had the blood-work done to find out whether she was eligible to donate her kidney or not. As it turned out they were an almost perfect match, 95 per cent. "It's rare to find a match that close," she said.

As a child, Jay never worried about his kidney problem. "He always played sports and though I never found out," she said, "but I always did. He had a normal childhood... and it was him that made it that way."

Many people who suffer kidney problems receive dialysis treatment, a process which acts as a filtration system for the blood. The time-consuming treatment has been reduced to 12 hours a week from about 36 hours a week as a result of technological advances.

An infection in early 1991 started to deteriorate the half a kidney Jay had left. "I had no energy whatsoever," prior to the surgery he said. After he and his mother finished all the testing and were approved for the transplant, the big day was scheduled for Jan. 22, 1993.

After the surgery, Lee was in a lot of pain. Two days into recovery her husband came walking into her room to visit. "I couldn't beleive my eyes," she said when she saw Jay come walking into the room behind him. "It was almost a miracle."

It was touch and go for awhile last summer as Jay's body began to reject the new organ. Lee said she was worried but new that he'd pull through.

Aside from having his blood tested once a week, Jay's life has returned to normal. The avid hunter and pool player said he has a lot more energy now, "but because you have two kidney's, you'd never understand."

Dental hygiene program for short-term scholars

By MONIKA QUECKENSTEDT
Staff Writer

Students curious about health professions but who don't see themselves as long-term scholars might consider Niagara College's one-year Dental Assistant (DA) program.

"I like working with people and I like dentistry," says DA student Julie Zizek, 18, originally from Toronto, but now living in Welland. "I didn't want to go through years of school to become a dentist or a nurse so I took this course."

From September to June, DA students at the Welland campus learn to be "chair-side assistants" in a dental office, said Dental Assistant and Dental Office Co-ordinator Billie Atkinson, of Welland.

Chair-side assistants mix materials, do some lab work, transfer instruments to the dentist and take radiographs.

"Radiographs use X-rays but we call them radiographs because some people are afraid of X-rays," said Atkinson. "It produces a negative like a camera does."

Atkinson said the 55 students get three weeks of practical placement in the community.

"For two weeks in April and one week in June, students work in dental offices in communities all over southwestern Ontario," she said. "We try to put them close to home if we can."

Placements this year will be in Barrie, London, Brantford, with the majority of students in St. Catharines, Welland and Niagara Falls.

Job placement last year "was really good," close to 90 per cent, Atkinson said. "This year we expect (placement) to be about the same."

"My goal is to work for a year in an oral surgery or orthodontist office," said Shelley Rossi, 24, of Fort Erie. "Then I'll go back to Niagara College for Dental Hygiene."

Atkinson said most DA students eventually become dental hygienists.

"We'll probably see many of them back at Niagara over the next five years to take the Dental Hygiene (DH) program."

Before entering DH, a student must have one year of work experience as a dental assistant, "which accounts for the turnover in dental offices" she said. "They come and go all the time."

New business courses to prepare managers for future

By DANIELLE MEVILLE
Staff Writer

In a unique partnership in education, a series of 24 new course offering studies and training in business leadership will be established at four Ontario colleges, including Niagara College.

'Preparing the Front-Line Manager for the 21st Century' offers a 'Business Leadership' Certificate for successful completion of the first-year and a diploma for graduates of the second year program.

General Motors of Canada is funding the pilot courses which began in January in Oshawa at the company's headquarters. Each educational institution is responsible for the development of the courses and will eventually provide the other institutions with their curriculum.

Each course will consist of about 45 hours of work, including in-class instruction and experimental activities. All curriculum will prepare students for "leadership in today's and tomorrow's workplaces," said a recent press release.

"I am pleased to see this example of partnership between industry and these educational institutions. This program demonstrates that the colleges and university are meeting the real needs of the companies and their workforces," said Dave Cooke, Ontario minister of education and training.

A major innovation to the program is Prior Learning Assessment. Students who have gained experience through non-credit courses, self-directed study and previous employment, may also receive credit and reduce the course load needed to meet program requirements.

Once a student completes the 12 course offered, he/she will be recognized as having credit in the two-year diploma programs and may be able to complete the requirements of a diploma.

"What is emerging throughout the college system is a whole new way of managing the business of education," said Niagara College President John Saso. "Through private/public sector partnerships, we are creating the kind of alliances that produce first-class training programs and versatile highly-skilled workforce which will ensure Ontario's manufacturing future."

Schedule of Pilot Courses and Dates for Year One-1994
Human Behaviour - January 31-February 4
Computer Literacy - February 21-25
Presentation Skills - March 21-25
Group Behaviour - April 11-15
Workplace Legislation - May 9-13
Cost Analysis - June 6-10
Coaching and Counselling - August 15-19
Effective Writing Skills - September 12-16
Managing Processes - October 17-21
Evolution of Management Principles - November 14-18
Continuous Improvement - December 5-9
Previous Learning Assessment Workshop - To be determined

NOTE: Year Two program courses to be announced later.

Mike Something of Toronto performs for about 150 people at After Hours Feb. 15.
Photo by Stephen Krick

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Learning is a never ending process

By ADELE NAGY
Staff Writer

It's funny how you can learn the most profound things from unexpected places.

Take journalism for example. I have learned on a more profound level than ever before that everything matters - everything is important. I can pick any topic in the world, or any person, and if I write the story with passion, it will be interesting.

I have also found, (for all of you that think reporters are know-it-alls), that writing is a process that facilitates education and the first person who gets educated is myself. If I want to write a really good story, one that people will enjoy reading and will, in turn, learn something from, I have to do a lot of research. I not only have to know the subject thoroughly, but I have to meditate on it so I can present my topic with sincerity and depth.

Fortunately I have been reminded, before it is too late, that it is infinitely beneficial to take a deep interest in everything. It is helpful for my own personal development and it is necessary for me to maintain a healthy psyche.

I am reminded of a story that Leo Buscaglia told, (you know the guy who lectures on love and wants us to try embracing total strangers on the street). He said every day at the supper table his father would ask him and his brothers what they had learned that day. So when they were washing their hands they would ask each other if they had learned anything that day and they knew if they hadn't, they would be told to go get the encyclopedia.

When they had learned something like the population of Nepal is 16,625,439, their father would say to his wife "Rosa, did you know that?" and she would say "No, I didn't know that."

To this day, Leo says every night before he goes to sleep, he asks himself the same question his father would ask him, "Felice what did you learn today?" and if he can't think of anything, he goes and gets the encyclopedia.

I have learned a lot these last two years and to everyone responsible, thank you very much.

Do Russians want freedom or a firm hand?

By STEPHEN KRICK
Staff Writer

As Eastern European countries clamor for membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Russian nationalist leader, Vladimir Zhirinovsky, promises that this will bring about a third world war.

In an interview on CBC radio Zhirinovsky said that Eastern European membership in NATO threatens Russians and Russian sovereignty. Yet due to the rise in Russian nationalism, Eastern European countries fear for their safety, especially when Zhirinovsky promises to reclaim the Czar's Russian Empire. This means taking back all the former Soviet Republics which have only recently achieved independence, as well as Poland, parts of Germany, and several other Eastern European countries.

To westerners it may seem unlikely that the Russian people could elect a nationalist, authoritarian government. But one must not forget that Russians have no history of political freedom. For the thousand years of recorded history, Russians have always had authoritarian regimes at the helm, from Ivan the Terrible and Peter the Great to Stalin and the Soviet bureaucracy. They don't know how to appreciate freedom, because to them freedom means chaos and economic poverty.

Many Russians prefer stability and a substandard economic situation, even if it means enslavement and terror. Also Russians feel uncomfortable with the fact that Russia is no longer a world power.

Zhirinovsky is playing on the Russian peoples insecurities, promising food and stability, as well as a purpose: Empire building where the Russians will once again be on top. There are now many who believe that Boris Yestin, the President of Russia should adopt a more nationalistic and authoritarian approach. Hopefully he doesn't for he will only fail.

Zhirinovsky says he will be elected president in 1996, and many experts believe that if the economic situation doesn't improve, which they say it probably won't, then he will in fact get elected.

Also as a parting shot in the CBC interview, Zhirinovsky said Russia has a new super weapon that he will not hesitate to use on any country that interferes with Russia. When asked to elaborate on the specifics of this so called "super weapon" Zhirinovsky declined to comment. Whether they have a super weapon or not, this comment reveals his aggressiveness.

The next several years will reveal whether Zhirinovsky is a flash in the pan or the next Hitler.

Hello new phone system

By STEPHEN KRICK
Staff Writer

Niagara College is automating its phone system.

In the next few months, the college will be installing a voice mail system which will be purchased from TTS Merdian System Inc at a cost of $134,000.

The system includes the automated attendant, voice mail boxes, and an integrated voice response system (IVR).

Beth Weldon, director of management information services, said the new system will lead to one employee losing their job. But "the equipment is cost effective because it is going to save any future additions to the staff."

Weldon said the emphasis is on service for students.

The automated attendant will greet callers to the college, instructing them to enter, on a touchtone phone, the extension they wish to reach, or part of a name if the extension is not known, or to push "0" for operator. Callers may also select an option from a "menu" of information topics.

Voice mail boxes will be assigned to staff and/or departments, in which they will record individual greetings. Callers (internally and externally) may leave a message or enter another extension on the voice mail system when staff are away from their desks.

Integrated voice response is the term used for the most sophisticated applications which will instruct callers to input information on touchtone telephone sets, extract information from the college main computers, apply security checks, and accept or provide information on individual student or course records.

The automated system will be implemented by June 1. Most mail boxes will be assigned by September. The first IVR application will be operational in 1995.

The voice mail system will be purchased and serviced by TTS Meridian Systems Inc., which is owned by Northern Telecom. As an incentive TTS Meridian will donate a complete telephone switch. The switch will be used by John Clark's communications class to better understand how a switch works.

Weldon said TTS Meridian is committed not only to a sale but they would also like to give something back to the community. Thus the donation of the switch to the college.

"There are a lot of relationships being built between private industry and education, and they think they have a vested interest and would like to have some knowledgeable people graduate who can provide those services," Weldon said.

Vegas night is coming to Welland

By MIKE MICHAUD
Staff Writer

There's a casino coming to Welland and it's being run by Niagara College students. Niagara's second-year Business-Sales students are organizing and will operate Casino Night.

Event chairperson Brian Hill said the event will give the students experience and will create community involvement. As part of their final year studies, the students are required to organize a charity event. Casino Night assistant chairperson Cindy King said a golf tournament has been the event chosen for several years in the past. But because this year's class will be the last (Business-Sales isn't being offered next year), she said the class decided to "break tradition" and hold a Casino Night.

With the help of instructor Rena Posteraro, the students choose an event and organize every aspect of it. From making tickets to getting sponsors, the students work together to make the event happen.

"It's a total class involvement," said Hill.

King said the idea for a casino came from a group brainstorming session. She said the class came up with many ideas but some, such as a golf tournament, limited those who could participate.

"We wanted to get the general public involved," she said.

The students started organizing Casino Night the second week of February. Once the problem of choosing the location was solved, "everything started falling into place," said Hill. He said the students' work builds together and the more that gets done, the more excited they get about the event. Because this is the first Casino Night, the students had no past examples to work from, which makes the task even more difficult, said Hill.

"It's the challenge of doing something new," said King.

The students hope to raise $3,000 for charity. Hill said the students "totally anticipate success." The class will also be holding a raffle for an Easter basket. All profits from the event will be donated to the Canadian Cancer Society, said King.

Although casino gambling has become a controversial subject of late, Casino Night is "first and foremost a charity event," said Hill. "It has nothing to do with gambling," he said. People attending Casino Night will receive a certain amount of "play money" to use on the games. He said this will prevent people from possibly losing large amounts of money.

Casino Night will take place Friday, May 6, from 7 p.m. until 1 a.m. It will be held at The Rose Villa, 154 Riverside Dr., Welland, Ont.

Tickets for the event are $5 in advance and $7 at the door. Tickets for both the raffle and Casino Night will be on sale in the main lobby of Simcoe building starting Monday. Hill said there are 450 tickets, but "we don't expect there to be any at the door."

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ENTERTAINMENT

Legalization of marijuana may eliminate criminal element

By KEITH HOBBS
Staff Writer

An old debate was brought out of the closet last week and quickly put back, way back, back where J. Edgar Hoover kept his teddies and garter belts.

The debate centres around the legalization of soft drugs, namely marijuana and hashish.

We can thank Ottawa Police Chief Brian Ford for putting the spotlight back on the drug debate, no matter how quickly it faded. Ford was quoted as saying he'd like the federal government to erase "soft drugs" from the Criminal Code and treat them the same way as the government now treats tobacco and alcohol. Ford, whose job is after all to catch crooks and put them behind bars, can't be serious. Or is he?

Why not?

Pot users, about five million and growing, amount to nothing more than bar flies, although they don't wake you in the middle of the night after driving into your pool. The chagrin of anti-drug activists, testing on mariujana and hashish for the effect on a person's health has shown no evidence that soft drugs are worse than tobacco.

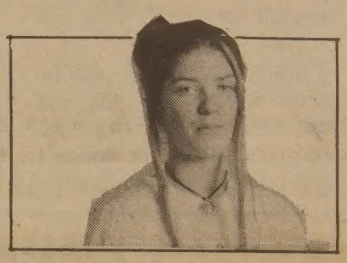
Of course, the quick answer is — soft drugs lead to more serious drugs like cocaine and heroin. That's like saying you shouldn't use mouthwash because it could lead to a 10-a-day-martini habit with a bottle of Gibson's finest for a chaser.

Half a million people in Canada have a criminal record for drug convictions, most for simple possesion. Prisons, which are better at training a drug pusher than punishing him, are crowded, and the courts, who face the problem of unpaid fines by these "criminals" can't stop the flow of prisoners to the "pens". All of this costs the taxpayer a tidy little sum, but what is money when it does so much good (obvious sarcasm alert).

Legalization would lead to regulation, in other words, the money would fund our social programs, which could do with the help, and be taken away from the "criminal element."

Ford asked the question," Is it really worth all the people getting hurt over marijuana and hashish?"

Answers to fire in Jenn's Top Ten



By JENN SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

There is a lot of speculation as to why Jerry's Alley burnt down. The following are the top 10 reasons why the fire occurred.

10. St. Catharines arsonist had one too many "brown pops".
9. Electrician's beer tab was bigger than Norm's.
8. Someone kept misspelling Jerry's name in the women's washroom.
7. Bouncers at Gord's were sick of getting laughed at by punkers yelling, "Nice haircut buddy."
6. Tipper Gore was in the area and mistook members of Revenge of the Egg People as transvestites.
5. Fulton Fitness needed room for new Gord's Beat-Them-To-Hell-For-No-Apparent-Reason, bouncer-training facility.
4. Weekly cockroach meeting got out of hand when one cockroach started yelling, "Humans suck."
3. A 50-beer drinker won the Blue Angel contest.
2. Jerry's Kids were sick of Brock Radio benefit shows.
1. Satan finally came home.

Sweet's Altered Beast 'sincere'

By DANIELLE MEVILLE
Staff Writer

Soulful, sincere, psychedelic, tuneful and insightful.

These are just some of the words to describe Matthew Sweet's new offering, *Son of Altered Beast.*

A seven-track collection of remixes, live performances and studio outtakes, the new CD is not hard to listen to.

The live tracks featured on the new EP demonstrate the power of Sweet's voice and backing band.

"The band tends to get a tension going when it plays," said Sweet. "The way Richard (Lloyd) plays lead guitar is freaky—he' s really an amazing player. Personally I'd like to bang away on rhythm guitar, so it's a raunchy sound. I've always really liked that edgy, uptight feeling."

That raunchy sound penetrates from all aspects of the album, including *Superdeformed* and *Ultrasuede.*

The live performances of *Someone to Pull the Trigger* and *I Wanted to Tell You,* make you wish you bought tickets for the Melissa Etheridge concert, for which he opened.

The live performances were primarily recorded at Washington, D.C.'s 9:30 club in mid-January. All-in-all, Sweet has performed to more than 500,000 people and the spring of 1994 continues to enlarge that number as he tours with Melissa Etheridge.

If you did in fact miss his him recently, don't hesitate to pick up *Son of Altered Beast.*

So-called environmentalists should pay more than 'lip service'

Continued from Page 3

There has been the perception that those belonging to the Sea Shepherds are pirates or belong to a pirate organization but he said this helps to generate media attention. "We've painted our ship black, we have cannons aboard and our flag looks like the Jolly Roger."

The Sea Shepherds have been openly and severely criticized, he said, for targetting property, more specifically whaling vessels.

"Some people feel property is more important than life but we've always been able to justify violence to property when it helps our cause," Watson said.

He said, we have to look at what we consider of value in our culture. "If we attack something that is considered sacred, such as a monument," Watson said, "in some countries we'd get a bullet in the back."

Every single day, though, Watson said, "we desecrate, rape and pillage our rain forests, waters and wildlife."

"We say we really love the rain forest, the redwood forests or the forests of Clayoquot Sound but we're only paying lip service to them," he said.

In all his years, Watson said, he's never heard of an environmentalist that has killed or even injured another human being, "yet we've been called militants, extremists and even terrorists."

"Environmental conservationists have been beaten and murdered, yet that is seen as okay," said Watson, "and I say that because it's reported so matter-of-factly."

The violence we're doing to 35 million species, "is absolutely unbelievable," said Watson. "We're losing 200 to 300 species a day and we're wiping them away without any thought or any vision of what it means for our future generations," he said.

In 1975, after a close-encounter with a dying whale, Watson decided he was going to save as many whales as he possibly could. He left Greenpeace in 1977 to establish the Sea Shepherds, a non-profit organization involved with the investigation and documentation of violation of international laws protecting marine wildlife species, as stated in their brochure.

The society is a "direct action organization" and is supported totally by contributions from the public.

"The Sea Shepherd Society has always remained a mobile and non-bureaucratic organization," said Watson.

He said the advantage of being an all-volunteer organization is that they don't attract bureaucrats. There are presently 30,000 members and the society is considered to be "not a protest organization, but a police organization."

All social change throughout history, Watson said, has been done through individuals and not governments or institutions. "Some say we should focus our efforts on education, rather than direct action, but we think direct action is education."

Watson and the Sea Shepherds have made changes the International Whaling Commission could not after "putting the fear of God" into those conducting whaling activities.

He said Jean Cretien promised to do something about off-shore fisheries off the Grand Banks of Newfoundland. "The Canadian government talks a lot but doesn't do anything," Watson said, "so we decided to do something about it last July."

Watson was later arrested and is now out on $10,000 bail. He said the Canadian government spent $3.5 million to arrest him.

"I'm not saying to be an effective environmentalist you have to be radical," said Watson. The strength of any movement is diversity," he said, "working for a common cause and doing for the earth and the future, not for yourself."

When he was a child, Watson said he hoped there was somebody to save the buffalo. He said he hopes, in the future, people will look back and say there were people trying to make a difference.

"This is the legacy I'm trying to achieve," said Watson.

Fly vents rage through poetry

By JENN SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

Her voice rings through the underground like a buzzing insect, "I am soaked in good intentions...packed into a smoke filled box...and I am sitting so quietly the rats don't even see me."

Fly, a spoken-word performer from New York, N.Y., second vocalist of New York's *God is My Co-Pilot* and independent comic book writer, drills through sets of crass poetry to vent her frustrations. Presently on a North American tour, she recently appeared at the Naked Lunch in Toronto.

Once an "extremely violent" person, Fly said she kicked drugs and alcohol and threw her aggressions into poetry. Fly said she's not out to change the world, she's just out to experience living.

"I don't have any grandiose ideas about a revolution," said Fly. "I believe in communication. I've found just talking to people makes a difference."

Presently living in a squat in downtown New York, with 12 roommates, Fly's $50-a-month fee pays for basic necessities and rebuilding their "rat-infested" home. Much of Fly's stream-of-conciousness writings focus on the hidden elements of poverty: dumpster diving for food, chasing rats, homelessness and fear. She distributes

twisted reflections of her experiences on colored, post-card sized leaflets.

"...the rats ran, scattered, from the mangled carcass of dumpster bread now strewn across my floor...I reached down and grabbed myself a piece and chewed..."

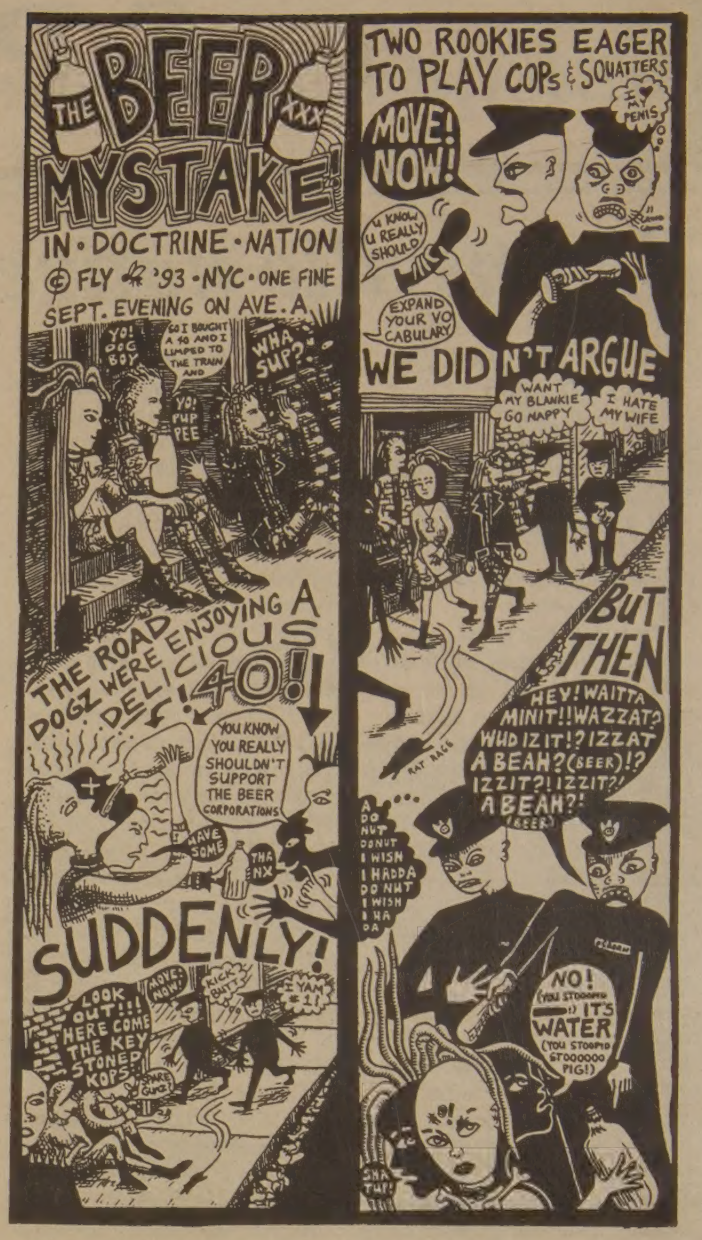
Fly doesn't like the cops. She believes the cops in New York are the "most corrupt" cops in the United States. Beer Mistake, an episode in her Picasso-like comic book, reflects a run-in with two irrational cops. One cop is screaming "I think I wanna' take you in cuz I don't like yer attitude..." while Fly, her friends Dogboy and Puppy try to reason with the cocaine-using cops. Fly said trying to reason with the police in New York is a lost cause, especially when you're homeless.

'I am soaked in good intentions...' -Fly

"It's a true story," said Fly. "New York's insane, but that's why I love it. I can walk downtown and sing at the top of my lungs and nobody will stop, or even look, at me. It's great."

Fly's travels during her tour include stops in Alberta, Vancouver and California, but those plans might change. Before her performance at the Naked Lunch, Fly learned *God is My Co-Pilot* would need her assistance on their trip to Greenland.

To find out information on Fly's tour or her writings, write: Fly, c/o Gargoyle Merchanique Lab, P.O. Box 1318, Cooper Station New York, N.Y., 10276, U.S.A. Annual Fly "prescriptions" are available by sending $20 or wool socks, hats, fresh bread or whatever donation you can afford.


THE BEER MYSTAKE
IN • DOCTRINE • NATION
© FLY '93 • NYC • ONE FINE SEPT. EVENING ON AVE. A
YO! DOG BOY
SO I BOUGHT A 40 AND I LUMPED TO THE TRAIN AND
WHA SUP?
YO! PUP PEE
THE ROAD DOGZ WERE ENJOYING A DELICIOUS 40!
YOU KNOW YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T SUPPORT THE BEER CORPORATIONS
HAVE SOME
THANX
SUDDENLY!
LOOK OUT!!! HERE COME THE KEY STONED KOPS
MOVE, MAN!
KICK BUTTS
YAM I!
SHARE SOME
TWO ROOKIES EAGER TO PLAY COPS & SQUATTERS
MOVE! NOW!
I KNOW U REALLY SHOULD
EXPAND YOUR VOCABULARY
MY PENIS
WE DIDN'T ARGUE
I WANT MY BLANKIE GO NAPPY
I HATE MY WIFE
BUT THEN
HEY! WAITTA MINIT!! WAZZAT? WHO IZ IT!? IZZAT A BEAH? (BEER)!? IZZIT?! IZZIT?! A BEAH?! (BEER)
A DO NUT DONUT I WISH I HADDA DO NUT I WISH I HA DA
NO! (YOU STOOPID PIG!) IT'S WATER (YOU STOOPID STOOOOOO PIG!)
SMASH!

Aspiring actors receive exposure

By DANIELLE MEVILLE
Staff Writer

The road to the Oscars has begun at Niagara College for some lucky aspiring actors and actresses.

The Broadcast-Radio, Television, Film (BRTF) department held auditions to fill a total of 25 positions for three-short student films.

Auditions were held March 7 to March 11 to fill the open positions. A three-day audition was held at the Welland campus as well as a one-day audition just outside of Toronto to cast the parts.

About 60 aspiring actors and actresses attended with almost all the roles being cast.

"We are looking for people of all ages and with any level of experience," said Tony Pendleberry, a second-year student. "These films will help actors and actresses gain experience and exposure."

Production of the three films begins Wednesday, March 23 with each film having five days to be completed. Shooting will wrap up April 20.

Elias Petras, a professor in the BRTF department, said most of the actors who were awarded the parts were found in the Toronto area. Some even had a lot of theatre and television experience under their belts, he added.

"This opportunity gives them (the actors) a chance to star in a role and something to include in their portfolio," said Petras.

The department has most of the roles cast, however, they are still looking for male teenagers to fill the remaining positions. Anyone interested in auditioning should contact: Elias Petras in the broadcasting department at (905) 735-2211 ext. 7432.

Graffiti runs rampant

By TINA YOUNG
Staff Writer

I am sitting here alone looking at the four disgusting walls that surround me.

Where am I?

For one tiny minute, I have a flashback of Harlem's ghetto and the back streets filled with graffiti.

No, I'm at Niagara College, in a women's washroom, go figure. The filthy language, love notes, and preaching about God is unbelievable. While sitting there I have read that someone loves Al, John 3:16, and Racism Sucks. Then there's many other attachments to these written blurbs.

This is not in one bathroom only: second floor of the Simcoe, first floor of the Simcoe and the bathroom across from the library. Boy, a pen can travel far.

Are people that lonely they have to write on bathroom walls anticipating feedback?

We are suppose to be women, not vulgar adolescents. How about keeping your religious attitudes out of public washrooms. As one woman put it, who cares who you love? Do you actually think you can change someone's beliefs on a bathroom door? If you do, you have been watching too much of Jimmy Swaggart. Stick to the television please!

If your mental well being is equivalant to a toddler then go out and buy washable, waterproof markers and grow up.

I just want to say one thing to all you starving artists, and I mean mentally starved. I feel sorry for you-LONLINESS TAKES ON NEW DIMENSIONS.

Budding film-makers cast parts

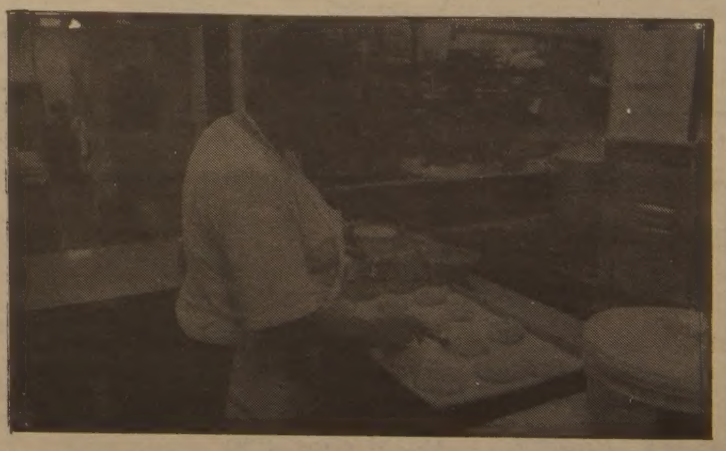
By DANIELLE MEVILLE
Staff Writer

Three short-student films have been cast in the Broadcast-Radio, Television, Film department. They are:

Lenny is about a young man who arrives in a small town and is treated horribly because of a physical defect - his extra long arms. After saving the life of the mayor's daughter, the town changes its attitudes towards him.

The Woods Across the Fields is about three friends getting reacquainted after 20 years, realizing the future they dreamed about as children never came true.

Sophistry is a tense psychological thriller featuring murder, intrigue and deception witnessing the interrogation of a prime suspect in a brutal murder.



Satisfy your sweet tooth!

Niagara College cafeteria worker prepares for the noonday rush by icing danishes.
Photo by Tom Brank

SPORTS

Beamsville native joins NHL expansion team

BY PEGGY TEDDER
Staff Writer

There were many cold winter nights when young Paul Laus dreamed of a career in the National Hockey League.

He may have been dreaming of his favorite hockey hero, Wayne Gretzky, the night he slept with his skates on.

"We bought him a new pair of skates one night and when we went to wake him up for an early-morning practice, there he was with his skates on, I sure wish we had a camera for that one," said Beamsville Ont., resident Rhea Laus, Paul's mother.

Today Paul Laus plays against Wayne Gretzky.

The 23-year-old 6' 1", 212-pound rookie defenceman for the Florida Panthers, the only team of five recent expansion franchises to boast a winning record, plays out his dream while enjoying the warm amenities that come with the location.

Born and raised in Beamsville, Laus discovered hockey about the same time as he started school. "I didn't stand out, but I always played really hard," he said.

Playing hard enabled him to stand out. At 15, he began his junior hockey career as defenceman for the St. Catharines Falcons. Attending Beamsville District Secondary School (BDSS) for Grade 9, he moved to Hamilton for Grade 10 where he played for the Hamilton Steelhawks, who later became the Niagara Falls Thunder. While playing for the Thunder, he was able to return home and graduate from BDSS.

Mike Burnstein, 23, athletic therapist for the Hamilton Canucks, lived with Laus and his family in Beamsville while he played for the Steelhawks. "We would always be hightailing it back to Beamsville for Paul to meet the curfew imposed by the team and Mr. Laus. Paul is a very determined, aggressive player," said Burnstein.

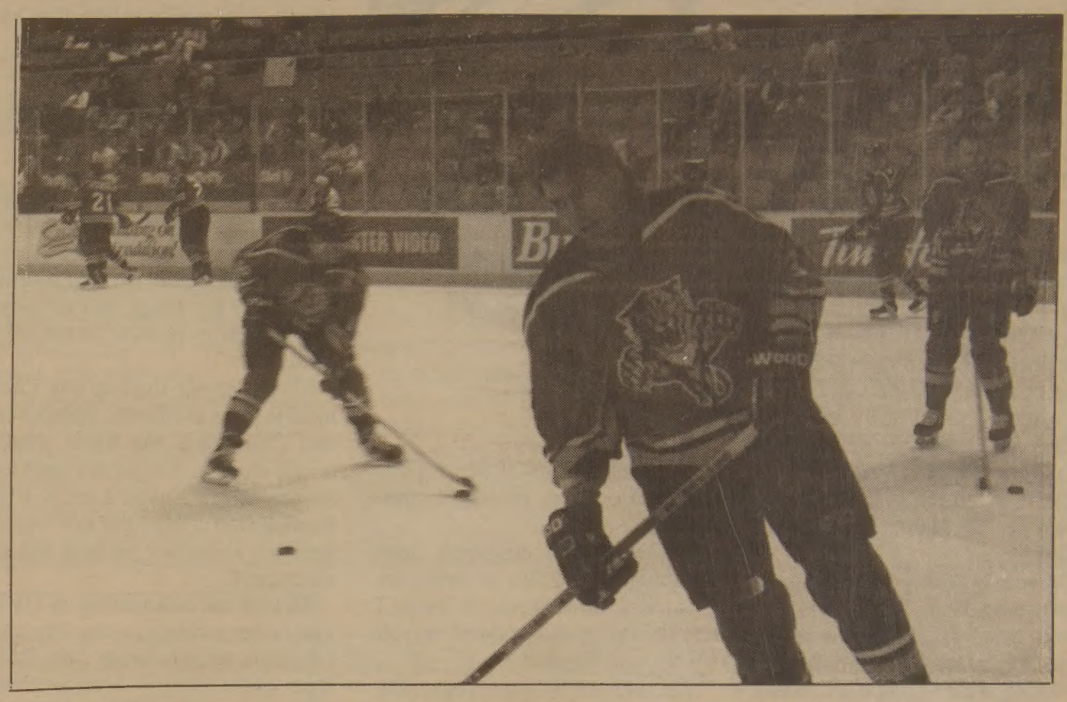
Selected second, 37th overall, by the Pittsburgh Penguins in the 1989 entry draft, Laus took the long way to the NHL. Because of his age and inexperience, he was sent to the minors where he accumulated 15 points and 193 penalty minutes for three different minor league teams. The next season in Muskegon, he had 21 points and 248 penalty minutes. In Cleveland for his last season, he gained the reputation of a fighter and earned 427 penalty minutes for his determination.

Unprotected by Pittsburgh in the 1993 draft, he was claimed by Florida on June 24, 1993.

"I would get discourgaged in the minors because there were so many guys, I didn't think I had a chance but my dream finally came true," said Laus.

"We are very proud, I personally never thought he would make it, especially coming from such a small town. It's usually the kids from the big cities that get the chance," said Mrs. Laus.

The proud parents didn't waste any time installing a satellite dish at their Beamsville home. "We are able to watch him play a couple of times a week, if they're not playing in Florida we can pick up games on the home channel of the opposing team," said Mrs. Laus.



Paul Laus, a former Beamsville native, now plays defence for the Florida Panthers.
Photo by Peggy Tedder

Featured in Hockey Stars 'Tuff Guys' magazine this month, he has gained a reputation as a player who "hits to hurt" and who doesn't hesitate to drop the gloves. "I stick up for my teammates no matter who he is (sic). You never hear of a guy dying from a hockey fight, just the odd injuries," said Laus.

Off the ice is where the resemblance to tough guy ends. Soft spoken and modest about his playing abilities, he is grateful to be where he is today. But there are no apologies for his record of two goals this season, or doubts about his role on the team. "I play defense, I've played defense since I was a little kid."

He said the chemistry between the Panthers' players is heartening and attributes the team's success to goalies John Vanbiesbrouck and Mark Fitzpatrick, "when one is down the other is there to take over."

Setting a NHL expansion record with a nine-game unbeaten streak through Jan. 30, the Panthers are on the prowl for the last two of three playoff positions in the Eastern Conference.

Laus wears shorts to work everyday when not jetting from game to game in the Panthers' 240-seat jet in which every player stretches out in his own row of three seats. Living in Boca Raton, Fla., with new bride Jeannie, whom he met in St. Catharines, he said he enjoys living in Florida and has not been touched by the recent crime wave in the state. "You hear so much about the crime in Florida but we live in a nice safe neighborhood."

Not that he is taking his accomplishments lightly. "This is a once in a lifetime chance, you have to be dedicated.

"Making it to this level is every kid's dream but they should get their schooling in first, hockey is not going to be there for the rest of their lives," said Laus.

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Annual athletic banquet scheduled

Awards given to college athletes

Niagara College will hold its 25th annual athletic banquet on Tuesday, March 29, 1994 at the Ameri-Cana Hotel, 8444 Lundy's Lane in Niagara Falls, Ont. at 6 p.m.

Awards will be handed out for male and female athlete of the year, freshman athlete of the year, and most valuable player.

The following intercollegiate athletes are invited to attend:

GOLF: Chris Foster, Dennis Randall, Darin French, Ted Wynhoffen

BADMINTON: Sean Ellis, Phil Grant, Irene Thompson, Chris Richards, Tara Parliament, Tara Lochhead, Kelly Rutherford, Scott Bateman, Jay Mara, Kevin Blundell, Keith Lessard

CURLING: Al Charuk, Sue Mulkins, Penny Rominger, Jeff Reed, Jason Trout, Tracy Niesen, Jason Mara, Dan Werner, Tracy Fleming, Melissa Bernard, Dave (Brent) Johnston

TOUCH FOOTBALL: Merv Wrighton, Dan MacNab, Chris Dohan, John Anger, Matt Lane, Robin Machauer, Guy McKinnon, Jason Reynolds, Chris Breen, David Nethersole, Lamar Vandusen, Ian Brooks, Peter DiPaolo, John Nicholson, Scott Currie

INDOOR SOCCER: Anthony D'Epiro, Dennis James, Sean Murphy, Ali Aden, Joe Nezic, Rob Lenik, Ireneusz Karbowniczek, Slavek Aksamit, John Hilbing, Doug Bowslaugh, John Benkovich, Carmine Ciccarelli, Gabe Bass, Gary Weinhandl

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL: Stephanie Bechtel, Amy Charko, Joanna Collings, Jennifer Forde, Tammy Forrester, Jennifer MacMillan, Cindy Shantz, Laurie Shipp, Donnell Stayzer, Kellie Teshima

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL: Alain Belanger, Kevin Blundell, Brian Dunn, Rick Holman, Jim Konrad, Blaine Preston, Brent Roszell, Fran Schuster, Donald Schantz, Brian Shipton

MENS BASKETBALL: Scott Peters, Steve Brewster, Shelley Doncaster, Scott Currie, John Nicholson, Michael Fortin, Cam Bell, Dan McNab, Chris Breen, Paul Grummett, Frank Keltos

HOCKEY TEAM: Dave Boulton, Brian Essery, Mark Massoti, Len Hale, Pat Skuta, Murray Kaye, Mike DeCoff, Scott Punnett, Dave Crane, Chuck Gunter, Chris Duerden, John Anger, Mike Matier, Mike Emond, Jason Buote, Pete Lachance, Lyndon Johnston, Joe Covelli, Rob LeMaitre

Fred Bassi retires as coach - bumped upstairs

By STUART MCDONALD
Staff Writer

After 24 years behind the Knights' hockey bench, Fred Bassi is hanging up his whistle.

The likeable coach said staying a 25th year would be "too obvious.

"I know when I'm supposed to quit. I've worked as hard as I could this year for the guys because they're great guys. It's time to let someone else have an opportunity to coach the team and it gives me the chance to teach more."

Bassi leaves coaching on a high note after winning the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association silver medal for the first time in the college's history. He said his greatest moment as a coach, however, came in the 1990-91 season when Niagara tied Penn State University with one minute and 21 seconds left in the International Collegiate Hockey League finals. Niagara then scored 18 seconds into overtime to win the championships.

Bassi said he will miss the "friendship and camaraderie between the players and coaches".

What he won't miss is Monday night practices which he said last until midnight. "You start your week off on a long note."

But Bassi said the negatives are very minor compared to "the joys of coaching."

Bassi's love for coaching was evident after the Knights won their semifinal game against Seneca this year. Bassi said "These guys are special. Even if we didn't win against Seneca It wouldn't have made a difference. I've still got them in high esteem and I will have for the rest of my life."

The feelings Bassi has towards this year's team is reciprocated by his players. The Knights' leading scorer this year, Pete Lachance, said "he's a great coach. He establishes the respect of his players and he is just a great guy all around. He's a good friend."

Knight winger John Anger said Bassi's "always there when you need to talk to someone. He loves to help people. You respect him and he respects you. He's down to earth and easy to talk to. It's a great honor to know someone like him."

Bassi said he is not through with hockey altogether. "I would like to be involved with the team in an advisory position. I would only be a guidance up there. I wouldn't tell anybody what to do. I've never done that in my life."

Bassi's last statement fits in with his hockey philosophy. "Never worry about hockey. All you do is play. Whatever is going to happen is going to happen."

From painting vans to Potvin's goalie mask

By ALAN GILDAY
Staff Writer

What started as the result of chance has turned into a full-time career for Jerry Vanderklok, an auto body and custom van painter. He started making small keychain fobs that resembled a goalie mask. He makes all of the fibreglass moulds and paints them by hand.

"One day in a sporting goods store a guy asked me if I could paint a real one," said Vanderklok. He had one on display in a store. A Toronto manufacturer of masks saw it and asked him to paint a few more. That was three years ago.

Since then, his hobby has become a full-time business. "I had been doing the masks in a corner of the body shop and was farming out the auto body work. I decided to close the shop and start doing them at home," said Vanderklok.

He uses the same techniques he used to custom paint vans in the 1970s. First the mask is stripped down and masked up. A special primer base and color base is then applied. The whole process takes about two weeks. The stencils are made and the mask is then painted by hand and airbrush.

"I didn't go looking for it, it just happened," said Vanderklok. He said 99 per cent of his business is wholesale, mostly manufacturers and retailers across Canada.

Most of the time, the goalie knows what he wants. "They'll say that they want the Belfour Eagle or the Hextall Bear, but I'm one of the only guys that will match colors to the ones used for the actual masks," said Vanderklok.

Vanderklok had done masks for some NHL players. "I did three masks for Kay Whitmore, one when he was with Vancouver, one when he was with the Whalers and a practice mask," he said. He also did a mask for Leaf goalie Felix Potvin and Quebec's John Tanner before he was sent down to the minors.

"I actually got a bit of a thrill when I saw the Russian National goalie Kabil Builin wearing one of my masks. His picture also appeared in an issue of Sports Illustrated," said Vanderklok.

Vanderklok said that custom masks are becoming big business. Some of the goalie mask manufacturers are paying big money to get their names in front of the television cameras.

Vanderklok said he does masks for goalies in the International Hockey League, the East Coast leagues and North American leagues.

He recently did a mask for Kevin Weeks of Owen Sound. Weeks chose a skull with a puck embedded in the forehead. Occasionally, Vanderklok calls the player to work out some of the finer details regarding what they want.

"I worry that this custom mask thing is only a fad, but I'm hoping the connections that I've made will lead to something else," said Vanderklok.

Jerry Vanderklok with one of his creations.
Photo by Al Gilday

Vanderklok stands behind his products. He uses only urothanes that are the strongest products on the market. "They can get chipped, but usually from being hit with a stick, not by pucks," Vanderklok said.

Anger-Niagara's double medal winner

By STUART MCDONALD
Staff Writer

Niagara College's only two-medal athlete is as modest and soft-spoken as he is talented.

John Anger, 22, a second-year, Law and Security program student won an Ontario College's Athletic Association (OCAA) gold medal with the touch-football team and an OCAA silver medal with the hockey team.

"Winning the gold in the football was a great achievement and I was really happy...hockey was more important to me because the way our team gelled at the end of the year," said Anger. "It was such a big improvement that it really meant a lot more.

"When we played football we didn't lose a game, we were good from the start," said the former Ontario Hockey League winger.

Anger said the win over Toronto's Seneca College in the OCAA hockey semifinal was the highlight of his year. "The game against Seneca was the best," he said.

Seneca beat Niagara eight times in the two years Anger played at the college and said he hated losing to Seneca. "It was not just the stuff you see in the game. It's the stuff they say to us when we're playing. It's a Toronto cockiness they had against us. To beat them in that game (the semifinals) was great."

Despite having played in the OHL and manning the right wing for the hockey silver medalists, Anger gave credit for the Seneca win to his teammates, coaching staff and the fans that attended the Final Four game in Kitchener.

Niagara College
KNIGHTS

"One person doesn't do it. It's a team effort right from the goalie...up to coaching," he said.

Anger's hockey career was not limited to Niagara College. He said he played 30-35 games for the now-defunct Hamilton Dukes of the OHL and had a tryout with the Oshawa Generals. Eric Lindros, Mike Craig and Rob Pearson were Anger's teammates for a few exhibition games which he said were "just great."

The same can be said for Anger's athletic achievements at the college this year.

NHL Awards-Fedorov has Hart

By STUART MCDONALD
Staff Writer

With only 10 games to go in the hockey season, it's about time for some awards predictions.

After about 15 years of Lemieux/Gretzky domination, the Hart Trophy for the National Hockey League's Most Valuable Player is up for grabs. Detroit's Sergei Fedorov, Toronto's Doug Gilmour, New York's Adam Graves and Montreal's Patrick Roy are the only four players worthy of serious consideration.

All four play for contenders and all four have contributed considerably to their teams this year.

Graves is a 50-goal, power forward who will win the Hart one day, but not this year. He has too much help on the Rangers for him to rank as a legitimate MVP. Mark Messier, Brian Leetch and Mike Richter help make the Rangers great even without Graves' Cam Neely-like presence.

Roy and Gilmour should be battling for the Hart, but won't win because the award usually goes to the best player, not the most valuable.

That leaves Fedorov. He will come second behind Gretzky in the race for the Art Ross Trophy for the NHL's leading scorer but will be compensated with the Hart because he can score, check and pass with the best of them. If Fedorov was any bigger, people would be comparing him to Gordie Howe.

My darkhorse for the Hart is Boston's Ray Bourque. He's a defenceman so he will likely be out of the running, but he's been his dominant self on the blueline this year. Bourque will score 20 goals, get 80 points and beat Calgary's Al MacInnis for best defenceman and win the Norris Trophy.

The Selke Trophy for the best defensive forward will again go to Gilmour as compensation for not winning the Hart.

Mike Keenan will win the Jack Adams Trophy for best coach. His hard-nosed coaching was just what the Rangers needed after a horrendous last year. Because of Keenan, the Rangers will win the President's Trophy for the best team in the regular season.

The Calder Trophy for best rookie will go to the best player you've never heard of before. New Jersey goaltender, Martin Brodeur, has played 40 games and has the fourth best save percentage in the NHL. He should be a lock for the Calder but stranger things have happened.

Finally the Vezina Trophy for best goalie. It's a tough choice because so many goalies have had great years. Florida's John Vanbiesbrouck has turned the expansion Panthers into a playoff team. Daren Puppa has stood on his head helping lowly Tampa Bay stay respectable.

Unfortunately for Puppa and Vanbiesbrouck, Roy and Buffalo Sabre Dominik Hasek will battle for the hardware.

Hasek may be the first goalie since Bernie Parent in the late '70s to have a goals against average below two. Roy is the MVP of a serious cup contender. Take your pick. My pick is Hasek because he's had a better year and heck, I'm a Sabres' fan.

Campus walk program promotes safety

By HEATHER D. HODGSON
Special to the Niagara News
Law and Security Administration Program

Complementing Crime Stoppers, Niagara College has two other proactive avenues to keep our college community safe: Campus Watch and Car Walk.

Campus Watch is based on Neighbourhood Watch. It is a system that operates on the concept that each community member has a responsibility to observe his or her surroundings and report anything suspicious to the security. Each campus has unique areas where problems could occur.

Incidents of property damage (mischief) and theft cost all of us. Monies to replace stolen or damaged college property must come from budgets destined for new equipment or books, etc. Thefts from individuals add unneeded financial and emotional burdens.

Campus Watch provides the channel of communication to stop the offense white it is occurring. By contacting security WHEN YOU SEE SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS, you can assist in having the offender brought to justice.

'Incidents of property damage and theft cost all of us.'

Reporting unsafe situations, such as icy patches in parking lots or lighting that is not working properly, can make our campuses much safer as well.

Campus Watch is not to be confused with Crime Stoppers. Campus Watch is for reporting the act while it is in progress; Crime Stoppers is for reporting the person(s) who committed the act. Crime Stoppers provides an avenue of reward for tips that lead to a successful conclusion of the investigation, as well as anonymity for the tipster.

Car Walk is a service provided through the Security personnel and the Law and Security Administration Program. It is a free service offered between 6:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Users of our campuses may be walked to the buildings from vehicles before classes start and to their vehicles from the buildings when classes finishes.

'Our college campuses are safe places'

During the class times, the Car Walk students patrol the parking lots and buildings, assisting security with information regarding problem areas, etc.

KISS THE FLAME
NIAGARA COLLEGE

Crime Stoppers, Campus Watch and Car Walk provide more than peace of mind to our college community. They provide a loud, clear statement to would-be offenders that there is a high risk of being apprehended. It is a proven fact that high profile security measures when coupled with education for the community result in a significant reduction in crime.

Our college campuses are safe places. By commencing these activities before problems occur, we can prevent problems from happening.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding personal safety, drop them in the Crime Stoppers boxes located in the learning resource centres.

Drop your anonymous tips in the Crime Stoppers boxes, then watch this column to see if you qualify for a reward.

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Proper study habits ease pain of final exams

By ANGELA KOTLARZ
Staff Writer

As the end of another school term draws near, so do feelings of apprehension, trepidation and anxiety.

Exams do strange things to even the most composed individuals, but the good news is there are ways to pull through virtually unharmed.

Looking at the total task at hand, and how you're going to spread the material over a certain amount of time, is crucial, said Brigitte Chiki, a Niagara College counsellor.

"When students have multiple exams, they are forced to schedule," said Chiki, "because otherwise they're very scattered in their studying and retain very little."

Cramming rarely works, she said, because your brain needs 20 to 30 minutes of rest in between chunks of studying.

Students who have more than one exam to write should be careful of studying related subjects close together, Chiki said. If you don't break up related courses with unrelated subjects, terms and concepts may become confused, she said.

Chiki suggests preparing for your exam from day one of the semester. "If you do this, you are over-learning and that can only help in the long-run," she said.

"If students don't make that connection, between a poor test performance and what happened before," she said, "they'll probably never change their behaviors."

Chiki said a good exercise for students would be to take a few moments after the exam to be introspective and to ask themselves, "How did I study for this exam as opposed to other exams?" From there, she said, they can either identify with the things they did well or poorly and learn from them.

Take advantage of all the time allotted for an exam

Many articles on the topic of exam-writing will suggest taking a few moments at the beginning of the exam to read the questions over.

"There are multiple reasons for this," said Chiki, "and one is to give you the mind-set that you know what's ahead but also to give you some time to relieve your stress."

From a counselling perspective, Chiki said she encourages students to take advantage of all the time they have rather than leave an exam early.

"Students can always add to an essay-type question or just double-check their answers," she said.

For multiple-choice exams, Chiki said, process of elimination is the best strategy. "Only look for the longest or shortest answers if you're resorting to guessing."

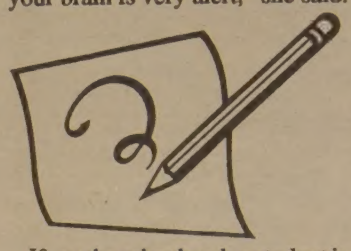
She said, cancel out any answers that are definitely wrong and then work with the answers that are left.

For students who are extremely anxious about multiple-choice exams, it's a good idea to hide the answers and assume it's a short-answer question, Chiki said.

Another strategy for students writing multiple-choice exams is to look for words such as never, always, and must, "because answers are rarely definitive like that," she said.

With essay-type exams, teachers know when students are trying to fill up space, said Chiki. "Be careful about repeating the same idea over and over again in different words because quality is more important than quantity."

little bit of anxiety is okay, Chiki said. "Some anxiety will get your adrenalin flowing and that means your brain is very alert," she said.



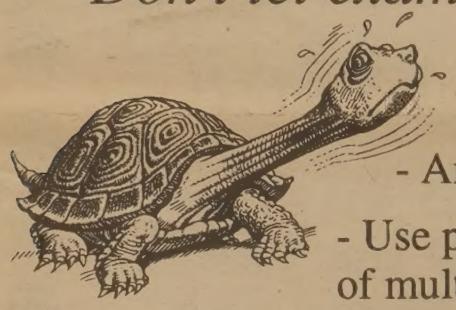
If, on the other hand, a student is extremely anxious to the point of being breathless, Chiki said, "they should consider some relaxation techniques."

Some students find it helpful to hang around the classroom and talk to other students but others find that "very nerve-racking," said Chiki.

One of the most important things to remember is to "take care of yourself before-hand and be sure to be alert, awake and fed," she said.

Further information, hand-outs on exam-writing tips and relaxation techniques are available through the counselling department of the Welland campus (ME103).

Don't let exams get you in a sweat!



STUDY TIPS:

- Anticipate possible exam questions
- Use process of elimination when unsure of multiple-choice answers

It's important for students to try and anticipate exam questions ahead of time, said Chiki.

"When students have been with a professor long enough, they usually can get a feel for when the important information is coming up," she said.

Some professors even begin a lecture by asking a question, "so students should anticipate that as a possible exam or test question," Chiki said.

She said in note-taking styles it is recommended students look at their notes and develop a test question every two or three paragraphs. "By doing this, students are in effect creating a test for themselves," said Chiki.

Textbooks can provide good study questions, either at the beginning or end of a chapter, she said.

With exams that involve problem-solving or the practical application of material, study groups can prove to be beneficial, Chiki said.

"Taking turns making up possible test questions and testing one another in a study group may be the best way to approach problem-solving exams," she said.

Evaluating past behaviors, whether good or bad, will go a long way towards taking on new behaviors, said Chiki.

An added bonus to this approach, she said, is you might notice questions are related to one another.

Although some experts have suggested looking for and answering the easiest questions first to build confidence, Chiki said, certain people find this very difficult.

"Not everyone feels comfortable jumping to the middle or the end of the exam, so this strategy doesn't work for everybody," she said.

Another benefit of reviewing the exam at the start, is to get a better idea of how much time is needed to complete each question, Chiki said.

Not every student will stick the exam out until the bitter end. Some students leave the exam early but Chiki said, "that may be related to personality."

"Some people just feel 'I've done the exam, it's over, I'm out of here' and maybe they've learned from past experience this strategy works for them,"she said.

Other students will stay and check and re-check their answers, sometimes even changing them. Chiki said most people went through school saying never change your answer, "but of course change it if you've mis-read the question and there's a legitimate reason for changing it."

Students who are told they're being given an open-book exam, initially think it's a treat. "Once they experience it, though, they'll find it takes a lot of time, so organization is key," Chiki said.

When preparing for an open-book exam, students should make themselves familiar with the index and table of contents of their text,

Cramming rarely works

'Organization is key,'
Brigitte Chiki

she said. Using tabs to mark chapters and underlining definitions may also be helpful, said Chiki.

Anxiety will be inevitable but a

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About 3,000 people turned out to the Horticultural Centre's 26th Annual Open House last weekend, where students sold plants and shared gardening tips to the community.
Photo by Donna Dolynsky

Horticultural Centre Open House blossoms with plants, information

By DONNA DOLYNSKY
Staff Writer

Niagara College's Horticultural Centre's 26th Annual Open House was a welcoming spring success.

"We are more than happy with this year's turnout," said Tom Ball, program co-ordinator. Warm temperatures inspired a steady flow of about 3,000 visitors who were greeted at the door by students from the program. T-shirts, sweat shirts and green-thumb growing guides were some of the money-raising items displayed, along with an "Approaching Eden" magazine which was created by the students of the horticulture program.

The two-day event, which was held on March 19 and 20th, gave the students an opportunity to share their knowledge and skills with the community and raise some funds for new horticultural equipment.

Displays included a wishing well, water ponds, a propagation greenhouse, tropical plant and cactus displays and patio layout display along with many basket plants, hanging plants and potted tulips, lillies, daffodils, spikes and much more.

"It's hard to keep stock on the tables," said Corine Mykytiuk, first-year student and member of the plant-sales committee.

Free refreshments and doughnuts were served in an indoor garden cafe setting where soft lighting accented a water-fountain that was accompanied by small trees and plants.

The rooms upstairs were filled with displays from the Garden City Horticulture Society, the Niagara Regional Bonsai Society, the Orchid Society, the Thorold Horticultural Society and the Cactus Club.

Last year the program raised enough money to purchase a new chip-shredder that creates mulch from old branches and woodchips.

"The funds raised from the event this year are not earmarked, but they will be turned over into the program," said Ball.

Landing a career: Solid resume key to impressing employers

By LEANN MCHUTCHION
Staff Writer

Graduation is only weeks away for many Niagara College students, and now that the years of studying are done we must begin the job search process.

Most people hate writing resumes and cover letters, but ultimately everyone must do it. If these tools people use to sell themselves to a company aren't impressive the chances of getting past the application process to the interview are very slim in today's tough job market.

Janet Forfar, a career services officer for the college, said "a resume is a lot more than a history, it's also a selling piece now."

Forfar said a resume should be clean and professional looking, either typed or computer printed; handwritten resumes are no longer acceptable.

When describing your skills and responsibilities you should use action verbs such as designed, produced, and operated, said Forfar.

Most people believe a resume must be confined to a single page, she said, but that is not the case. Don't be afraid to use two pages if you feel you are selling yourself short by not including something.

The resume should include the facts about your skills, education and experience. The resume is not the place to tell the potential employer about the personal qualities you possess that will be an asset to them — save that for the cover letter.

Cover letters should be set up as a business communication, including addresses and names of the person you are sending it to, and a return address.

Make sure you take the time to get the correct name and spelling of the person who will be reviewing the applications. This requires a quick phone call but can put you on top of a pile of applications the employer is reviewing. It lets the employer know you take your work seriously, "and these days finding a job really is a full-time job," said Forfar.

In the first paragraph include information about why you are writing. If you have a contact within the company, include their name in the first paragraph. This will catch the employer's attention, said Forfar.

The next paragraphs should match your skills with the job available. "If they ask for someone who can use Lotus, and you have Lotus experience you should include that in your letter," said Forfar.

The letter's closing should thank the employers for their time and tell them you will be contacting the employer within 10 days to two weeks to follow up with them, said Forfar.

"You really should follow up on the resumes you send out," said Forfar, "If an employer is interested in your resume, calling them and letting them know how interested you are can give you an edge."

It is standard to take your resume or portfolio with you when you go for an interview, said Forfar. It is not required to include these with your resume and cover letter.

Letters of recommendation may be included with your resume package, said Forfar, but only if you feel they will give you an edge.

"The real idea is to take time and apply to the companies you want to work for," said Forfar. Rather than sending out hundreds of resumes, which can be very expensive, send out a few and make sure you do the follow-up work on them.

Living and dying with HIV

By ELIZABETH BROWN
Staff Writer

Living with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) for 12 years Al, 41, says "The doctors say I have approximately one year to live."

When his male partner found out he was infected, Al was then notified by the health department that he too could be infected with the virus.

"I have lived with this for 12 years and I'm looking forward to dying," he said.

Al said if he could do it all over again he would not have gotten tested, not because of all the physical pain but his mind has been affected more than anything by this disease.

The Welland resident is borderline HIV/AIDS and as long as he keeps his T-cells up he'll be fine.

Having his first homosexual experience at nine, he was at one time having sex five or six times a day, "I was very promiscuous," he said.

Now Al is not interested in having anymore relationships. His last sexual experience was six months ago with another HIV infected male.

"The men I have had sex with know I have HIV, I'll still have sex, it doesn't bother them. I always use condoms.

"They are taking that chance having sex with me. I'm not forcing myself on them, but I would feel bad if someone became infected," said Al.

Al receives counselling from AIDS Niagara in St. Catharines. "They are very compassionate and it is nice to talk about my illness," he said.

"I only have my father, sister and niece left. My father is old and thinks that a needle will cure whatever I have, my sister and niece don't want to talk about. They ignore it."

Even though Al is not religious he believes and prays to God each night. "I think He knows I want to die," said Al.

Dinner dinning dates

By DIANA BERARDI
Staff Writer

The Hospitality and Tourism Council has set the following dinner dates:

April 14 - Michael Yando Award dinner for all third-year Hotel and Restaurant Administration students. This award is presented to a graduating student, chosen by fellow classmates, who exemplifies the spirit and enthusiasm Yando displayed at school. Yando died of cancer in October 1985 in his final year of the Hotel and Restaurant Administration program.

The dinner, prepared and served by second-year Hotel and Restaurant Administration students, will be held in the Kerrio Room of the Hospitality and Tourism Centre.

April 20 - Hospitality and Tourism Centre's year-end dinner dance at the Ameri-Cana Resort and Conference Centre. The cost is $22 a person and tickets will be available soon at the Hospitality and Tourism Council office.

Informing Niagara College

By MIKE MICHAUD
Staff Writer

Well, this is it. It's over.

This edition of the *Niagara News* is the last from this year's second-year Journalism-Print program students.

Since September, *Niagara News* staff have been "informing Niagara College" and learning the tricks of the reporting trade. Holding down a full schedule and creating a newspaper every week (every other week during the fall term) wasn't an easy thing to do, but we managed.

This is the last edition from the second-year students because we start a month-long work term at the beginning of April and graduate after that (hopefully). But don't worry, the *Niagara News* will continue to keep you up to date on the hottest news around campus.

The next edition of *Niagara News* will be filled with different names and faces. Because the second-year students will be gone, the first-year students will take over production of the newspaper. They will bring you two more issues of *Niagara News* before the end of the school year.

On behalf of the second-year Journalism-Print students, I would like to thank the students and staff of Niagara College for their support. Without your help and story ideas, we wouldn't have any news for our *Niagara News*.

Niagara News is your newspaper and any ideas, comments or complaints you might have will happily be accepted.

Thank you and goodbye.

The second-year JP students thank all their readers for making the Niagara News a success.

HOP INTO THE

•ENTERTAINMENT•
Bob B.
Singer
live in **After Hours**
March 29
1-3 p.m.
Mike Woods
in **After Hours**
April 7
1-3 p.m.
• MOVIES •
Every Tuesday
and Thursday
See posters for
more details

SAC

(Student Administrative Council)
THIS WEEK'S COMING EVENTS:

•Orientation•
Slogan/Design contest
deadline
MAR. 28, ME-103
•REMINDER•
SAC elections April 19.
Vote at ME-103 11-1p.m.
CLASS REPS!
Meetings will be held first week in April. New structure for system to be discussed. See Trevor at the SAC Office for meeting times and locations!

YEAR END BASH!!!

Tickets ($4) on sale first week in April!

GRAND PRIZE-- ***ONE YEAR'S FREE TUITION OR EQUAL VALUE TRIP!***

FIRST 200 TICKETS SOLD RECEIVE FREE COMMEMORATIVE HAT

See SAC Office for rules and regulations on **GRAND PRIZE!!!**

SAC...WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU!?

Motels looking for tourism revival this summer

By JILLIAN WATSON
Staff Writer

The Niagara Region needs to attract investors and promote tourism to revive the motel industry hard hit by the recession, motel operators believe.

"When there is a recession there are less people working and therefore less people travelling on the road. People don't have money to travel or take their holidays anymore," said motel owner and certified accountant Nathan Isaacs.

The Riverview Motel in Dunnville, Ont., suffered a 25 per cent decrease in occupancy from 1991 to 1992. The downward trend continued into 1993, and owner Isaacs says he holds little hope for 1994.

"There's not much reason to be positive about the coming summer," he said. "People say there are signs that the recession is coming to an end but as far as tourism is concerned we don't see any signs."

There aren't any motels in Ontario that haven't been "severely affected," said Isaacs, 71. "You can take the finest hotel in downtown Toronto and even their occupancy rate will be way down."

Days Inn in Welland, Ont., experienced a 30 to 35 per cent decrease in occupancy from 1992-1993, said Lyon Tenbroeck, front desk clerk and night auditor.

The dramatic decrease has meant cuts in housekeeping and restaurant staff. Housekeeping staff was drastically cut from six to two people.

With 75 rooms, Days Inn has failed to fill more than four rooms consistently on Sundays this winter. The occupancy rate has decreased 60 per cent at best from an already slow summer, he said.

And with less money for leisure, tourists are moving away from deluxe suites with heart-shaped jacuzzis and round beds in favor of cheaper everyday accommodations.

Although it is not common practice, Tenbroeck said it would be "wise" to close a lot of the rooms during the winter.

'People don't have money ...' - Isaacs

Guardedly optimistic about the coming summer, he said "We're hoping for a better summer, but only time will tell." If occupancy rates increase, he predicts 75 per cent of the housekeeping staff laid off will be hired back.

Restaurant revenue has also declined. Casa's Steak and Seafood Restaurant, adjacent to the motel, was forced to discontinue serving breakfast Sunday through Wednesday because revenue was so low.

The inn tries to compensate for lost revenue during the week by offering live music Thursday through Saturday and bringing in horseracing via satellite betting from Flamborough Downs.

Both Days Inn and their rival Comfort Inn which has a 50 per cent winter occupancy rate rely on business guests and wedding reservations to pull through the slow winters.

Both Tenbroeck and Patrice Bishop, front desk clerk at Comfort Inn, said Welland should try to attract investors and promote tourism in the area. "We need something to put Welland on the map," said Bishop.

Both motels stress their close proximity to the "world famous" Niagara Falls because they say Welland itself has "little to offer."

Days Inn and it's main competition Comfort Inn by Journey's End Motels are trying to combat the effects of the recession by lowering rates and improving customer service.

Both motels offer Canadian and American Automobile Association discounts of 10 per cent, corporate rates, and family palns.

Under the family plan, children under 16 stay free at Days Inn and children under 18 stay free at Comfort Inn. This plan accommodates families hard hit by the recession.

Comfort Inn offers discount weekend rates and 10 per cent discounts on future reservations.

But ultimately, said Bishop, the industry will improve only when Welland decides to attract foreign investors.

Self esteem key to happiness

By Heather D. Hodgson
Law and Security
Administration Program
Special to Niagara News

In a class of Grade 6 students, in a small town in Ontario, the police officer presenting Drug, Alcohol Resistance Education (DARE), asks, "What is self esteem?"

After initial shuffling and blank stares, one youngster volunteers, "Self esteem is like when some one says I did a good job, but I don't believe them because I'm stupid."

How do you see yourself? Probably, like most of use, you shy away from excessive praise or credit. But, if deep down inside you really believe you're stupid or can't do things, you're setting yourself up for failure.

Victims of abuse often suffer from low self esteem. Substance abusers also, in general, suffer from low self esteem.

Where does this all start?

The self image starts building shortly after birth. Positive feedback and encouragement to try to achieve from parents, older siblings, teachers, etc. helps us to see that success and failure are both part of the same learning process.

Later, our friends' apparent opinions of us play a major role in self image. Your selection of friends will have a great influence on your self image. How do your friends treat you? How do you peers, in general, treat you? Are you accepted because of your strengths, or does it seem more that you are the one that is the butt of ridicule? How do you react? Your selection of friends is a reflection of you image of yourself.

Does this mean that if you are the source of friendly laughter you should line up for counseling? Or course not! But, let's look at what is under the surface.

Do you choose friends that reinforce your strengths? Or are you setting yourself up for failure by believing that ridicule is all you are worth of receiving. For most of us, a healthy balance of laughing with others at our mistakes and celebrating our successes with friends is welcome.

What kind of friend are you? Do you take delight in the failures of others because it makes you feel important? Or, do you help your friend to build his or her strengths so that he or she can succeed in the future?

Perhaps self esteem could be compared to any anonymous text entitled "Are You A Winner?". A person with a positive self image is destined to come out a winner, in the end. How do you rate yourself?

ARE YOU A WINNER?
a winner says, "Let's find out"
a loser says, "Nobody knows"
when a winner makes a mistake
he says, "I was wrong"
when a loser makes a mistake he
says, "It wasn't my fault"
a winner goes through a problem
a loser goes around it, and never
gets past it
a winner makes commitments
a loser makes promises
a winner says "I'm good, but not
as good as I ought to be"
a loser says "I'm not as bad as a
lot of other people"
a winner tries to learn from those
who are superior to him
a loser tries to tear down those
who are superior to him
a winner says "There ought to be
a better way"
a loser says "That's the way it's
always been done here"

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Not valid in conjunction with any other offers
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